

SITM Update

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows



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www.sitmnev.org

Scholarships & Conference Done, Youth Awards Coming

April brought our Sierra Nevada Region Conference and what a conference it was. SI Truckee Meadows walked away with so many awards including the GRAND PRIZE! Congratulations to the committees and coordinators. Congratulations to the report writers. Congratulations to each of you for making this the best club in our region. We always knew we were the best...but now the entire region knows it also. As your President I get to accept the awards and I get to keep the certificates, but it is truly something that belongs to EACH of you! I thank you for all your hard work and dedication.

FIVE is the new number...we are now in District V, along with Winnemucca, Elko, Washoe County, Reno, Fallon, Truckee Donner, South Lake Tahoe, Tahoe Sierra and Quincy! What a GREAT District we have. It will be fun to get to know the members of our new sister clubs.

#Bring Back Our Girls

ACT NOW: Take action to Bring Back Our Girls

By now, thanks to social media the world has heard about the Nigerian girls who were kidnapped from their boarding school by a fundamentalist group whose name roughly translates into "Western education is a

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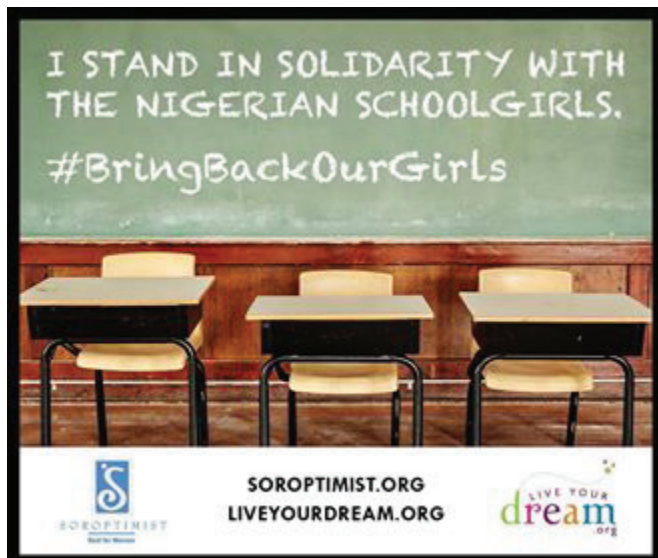


SITM's Delegates Bev Perkins, President Margie Hermanson and Mich Glazier.

The conference also had a wonderful dinner on Friday night to honor "Women Who Serve". Our own Tracy Turner was honored by our club. Each club brought a past or present member of the armed services and it was so inspiring. The color guard presented the flags and then also retired them at the end of the evening. The songs from each branch of the service were played and I reflected back when my own father taught me the one from the Air Force. The room was decorated in red, white and blue and many attending also dressed in patriotic colors. Inspiring is the word I would use to describe the evening. We honored Tracy by making a donation to the NV Project in her name. That donation will be presented at the meeting on May 15.

May will bring our THANKS TO YOUTH luncheon on the 22nd. This is the "BIG ONE"...this is the one you do not

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Bring Back Our Girls continued
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sin." No one is quite sure what the fate of these girls will be, but from reports they will be married off or trafficked. It is a horrific crime against a group of girls with big dreams and bright futures.

Now the real question is, what else can be done?

(1) Spread-the-word: Join the worldwide social media campaign for Bring Back Our Girls in solidarity with Nigeria! Share the solidarity badge on Facebook and Twitter.

"This was not a coordinated campaign," Ibrahim M Abdullahi, a lawyer in the Nigerian capital Abuja, told the BBC. "It was a number of individuals in Nigeria tweeting to raise awareness in the hope that the international community would eventually take notice." [Source: TIME]

(2) #STOPTrafficking: Take action to raise awareness, support survivors, prevent slavery from happening in the first place, and advocate for better laws and enforcement.

(3) Contact Your Local Media: Please help to increase awareness about the issues facing women and girls throughout the world by emailing the following letter to your local paper and/or other news media. Call the paper or look it up online for instructions on how to submit the piece. http://salsa3.salsalabs.com/o/50503/p/salsa/web/tellafriend/public/?tella_friend_KEY=9431



SITM members gathered Friday night for a reception honoring Tracy Turner, as part of the Women Honoring Women Who Serve program.

President's Message continued from page 1

want to miss. The youth we honor are always amazing and as the old saying goes..."it takes a village". We are that village -- sell your tickets and attend. All proceeds from this year will support the event next year. Coordinators Pam and Mich along with their committee have been working very hard. Our guest speaker this year is Coach Brian Polian from the University of Nevada Football Team. He will be fun and should bring a different perspective. The kids will love it.

We had our elections and what a great team for next year. President-Elect Pam is busy getting her team of coordinators together. Think about supporting your club by chairing a committee. As I said a bit ago ... it takes a village and we all need to step up and be part of that village. Committee sign-ups will be May 29. Start thinking about what committee you want to serve on for next year. If you can't attend that meeting, make sure you let President-Elect Pam know what committee you would like to serve on so that she can place you.

You can see as we come to the end of this club year it is a very busy time. We still have much to do. We need our comfortable shoes to get it all completed by the end of June. This is not the stiletto wearing period. This is the time for running shoes. So get them out and start running so that you do not miss the fun as our year comes to a close and we get ready to start up again.

Love, Margie

Calendar

- May 14 – Baby Shower for Ploypun Pikhane, 6:00 p.m. at Ethan Allen Design Center. Potluck.
- May 15 – NV Project Speakers
- May 16 & 17 – IGU Committee Garage Sale Set-up Friday afternoon and evening; sale on Saturday.
- May 17 – Aimal's graduation party
- May 20 – SITM Social at Montreaux after work.
- May 22 – 27th annual Thanks to Youth luncheon, .
- May 29 – Committee Sign-ups.
- June 5 – SOLT Committee presentation by Holly Riley.
- June 10 – Joint Board Meeting with new and retiring board members, NV Energy.
- June 12 – Business Meeting.

You can follow our weekly activities on:



May Board & Business Update

By Faye I. Andersen

Approaching the end of the Club Year, SITM still has some important projects and tasks to conclude before the new year.

Budgets Set for New Year

The board recommended and the membership approved the second reading of the budgets for the Service and Technical Treasurers for the coming year. An additional \$1,000 earmark for a second Laurel Society membership was added to the service fund, plus an additional \$340 was added to the Education Women's general fund line item to pay for extra lunches for the SNR board members who attend the annual women's scholarship meeting (prior to conference).

April Happy Dollars.

A total of \$375 in April Happy Dollars was raised for the NV Project, which provides "care packages" of food, books, games and other treats and are distributed to deployed military. May Happy Dollars are designated for Disability Resources, helping local individuals with disabilities achieve their highest potential.

Upcoming Important Dates Not to Miss

Wednesday, May 14 – Baby Shower for Ploypun Pikhane, 6:00 p.m. at Ethan Allen Design Center. Potluck.

Friday/Saturday, May 16 & 17 – IGU Committee Garage Sale Set-up Friday afternoon and evening; sale on Saturday. Workers are still needed for Saturday afternoon shift.

Tuesday, May 20 – SITM Social at Montreaux after work. See Niki Ewing for details.

Thursday, May 22 – 27th annual Thanks to Youth Luncheon,

Tuesday, June 10 – Joint Board Meeting with new and retiring board members, NV Energy.

Membership Update

A Leave of Absence was granted to Jennifer Thompson through June 30 for work reasons. Remaining on leave through June are: Kathy Martin, Teresa Mentzer, Thuy Tran, Patty Tucek and Sarah Galetti, all for work reasons; Ploypun Pihakane through June for work and personal reasons; and Sue Camp for health reasons.



June 5 Meeting Features Holly Riley

The SOLT Committee will present special speaker Holly Riley on June 5 and are asking members to arrive early, if possible, to accommodate Holly's presentation. "You are more powerful than you have been taught to believe," says Holly, a best selling author who will inspire and help members recognize their potential.

Let Life Love You
www.HollyRiley.com

28th Semiannual Garage Sale May 16 & 17

By Patty Downs, IGU Committee

We are still in need of items, so please dig deep to find those treasures.

There are several options for storing them until the sale.

1. You can drop them off at the Ethan Allen warehouse between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday,
2. You can call the store at 826.1722 to make arrangements for drop off.
3. You can check with the receptionist in the main store anytime Monday through Sunday during store hours which are 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

We will also be setting up the boutique section for higher end clothing and items. Please mark these items if you are dropping them off at Ethan Allen.

We are in need of members/volunteers to work the afternoon shift from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Thanks for your contributions and assistance!





Jack Simon Graduate Student Scholarship awardees from left to right: Lindsey Murphy, Kelly Brie Klingler, Koala Koenig and Jenny Lopez



Nancy Gomes/Mary Gojack Scholarship awardees from left to right: Danielle Fargo, Carleen Harmon, April Harwart-Perkins, Arthi Sachdev and Bethany Spanier

\$35,000 in Scholarships Awarded to 11 Women

Eleven deserving women students were honored and awarded with \$35,000 in scholarships by a packed house of SITM members, Sierra Nevada Region officers, directors and coordinators and special club guests at the April 24 meeting. SIA Secretary-Treasurer Jacqueline Bond also joined us for this special occasion.

Five awardees received Nancy Gomes/Mary Gojack Memorial Scholarships to assist re-entry women to complete their education. Six awardees received Jack Simon Graduate Student Scholarships who are pursuing a graduate level degree.

The special speaker was Estella Gutierrez, a Trustee for the Washoe County School District.

Thanks to Education/Women Committee Co-Coordinators Marilyn Pearson and Patti Doty and all of their members who worked hard to bring these outstanding women to our scholarship program.



Estella Gutierrez, Washoe County School District Trustee.



Bindee, Eberlee, Sports Dietician and Strength and Conditioning Specialist spoke at our May 1 meeting with an inspirational message about the importance of eating right and staying fit as we age. How many of us are one of the Atlantis' fabulous deserts that day?

Kristen Ivey from Canine Rehabilitation Center and Sanctuary provided the April 17 meeting discussing their progress in developing a safe haven for dogs which have previously been unadoptable.



Anna McArdle

A Circuitous, but Eventually Successful Path to Soroptimist

By Faye I. Andersen

Anna McArdle has been "stalking" Doris Phelps for a dozen and a half years, she admits with a laugh. Without knowing the story, you would certainly say she's been "following" Doris around for some time, in her profession anyway and now thankfully with Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows.

Member and Past President Doris hired Anna 17 years ago to work with her at the Sands Regency Casino Hotel. Anna had sales experience, but it was her first foray into the hospitality industry. "I knew of Soroptimist because I would watch Doris go off to SITM meetings every week," recalls Anna. She also knew of the larger Soroptimist universe when district meetings and the original Club Orientation Training Retreat was held at the Sands by the Sierra Nevada Region.

When Doris moved to the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa, it wasn't long before Anna moved to the Atlantis too. Once again, that Soroptimist connection followed Anna, as the annual Region Conferences have been held there annually since 2003. Doris subsequently moved to the Food Bank of Northern Nevada, "to do good work" until she retired last year. Anna is still with the Atlantis as Regional Director of Sales and played a significant role in last month's region conference.

Anna began her early years in northern California, where she says she was privileged to get to know three of her four great grandparents. It left enough of an impression that later, while in high school, she helped start a foster grandparents program.

Approaching her teen years, Anna moved to Westcliff, Colorado, a small town near Denver. It was a good move for her, she says. As a child Anna suffered a 50% hearing loss due to encephalitis. Her mother, a stay-at-home-mom, worked regularly with her. "And because

it was a small town in Colorado, everyone watched out for me," she said.

Graduating high school with her class of 18 seniors, Anna soon learned that she had won a four-year scholarship from the Masonic Lodge – but she learned it by reading the Denver Post newspaper. She earned her degree in behavioral science and criminal justice.

Soon after, Anna went to work for Alamo Rental Car in Denver. Thirteen years in that post found her moving with the company to Missouri, Idaho, Texas, and yes, Reno.

Anna and Tom McArdle are celebrating 17 years of marriage this month. Anna is step-mom to three grown sons and is Nana Anna to four grandchildren, with another one on the way in August. Anna and Tom enjoy going on cruises for their vacations. They have been on 13 cruises and have cruised to Hawaii, Mexico and the Caribbean (Eastern, Western and Southern).

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Anna and Abby, Kirby and Evan



Anna and Tom's 10th anniversary

Anna McArdle continued from page 3

They are planning on a Panama Canal cruise soon.

Given her newness to the club, Anna's not sure she has a favorite SITM project yet. Her first was Thanks to Youth, and she worked at the Reno Air Races this year. She called Making a Difference for Women "a real eye-opener".

Besides Soroptimist, Anna has a long history of volunteering. While in Colorado, she volunteered for Girls Club and United Way. In Nevada she has served as President of the Lupus Foundation of America Reno and on the board for MDA. She is currently involved with Give Hope, a foundation helping children with catastrophic illness.

For fun, she makes jewelry, a skill she learned from Penney Leezy and at Marilyn Pearson's home while making bracelets for the oncology patients at RENOWN. She says she finds the work therapeutic. Anna sells jewelry and scarfs at the Hookava Hookah Lounge (at First & Arlington), operated by her sons during the third Thursday wine walks.

Anna joined SITM in 2013 and has already been elected as our Corresponding Secretary for 2014-2015. Anna, we're glad you kept Soroptimist in mind over all those years and especially pleased you've joined SITM.



Anna and friend at a golf tournament in Florida.

Thanks to Youth Luncheon Set for May 22

It's not too late to find sponsors and sell tickets

By Pam Robinson



It's not too late for new sponsors to contribute to our 27th annual Thanks to Youth luncheon, Thursday, May 22, 2014. Sponsorships are available in the amounts of \$1,500, \$1,000 and \$500. Once again, SITM members have the opportunity to sponsor a table for six for the special price of \$250 or table of 8 for the special price of \$300. Individual tickets for the event remain at \$25.

Ticket coordinators, Becky Moody and Vicki Schultz, distributed tickets to members at our April 3 kick-off

luncheon and bring them each week. Please contact them if you didn't receive yours or if you need more! And be sure to let Becky Moody know if you will be attending and who your guests are! It's very important to let the Atlantis know how many will attend.

We'll have a great raffle this year. Michelle Jones and Margie Hermanson have organized theme baskets, and many members have donated items for them as well as gathered them from friends and businesses. Great job by all!

The Education Youth Committee has chosen five scholarship recipients and five unsung heroes whom we will meet at the luncheon. Their stories will touch your heart, and we'll have Kleenex on the table for sure! University of Nevada Football Coach, Brian Polian, will be our speaker and has planned a very motivational talk.

Please contact Thanks to Youth Coordinators, Mich Glazier and Pam Robinson, with any questions. We're looking forward to an exciting event! See you there!

38th Annual Sierra Nevada Region Conference

Delegates Report by Bev Perkins & Mich Glazier

Awards, recognitions, scholarships and grants, elections and plenty of speakers and presentations headlined the 38th annual Sierra Nevada Region Conference, held April 25-27 at the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa in Reno. Twenty SITM members attended all or part of the conference.

Friday Night Honoring Women who Serve(d)

The conference officially opened with a Friday night extravaganza celebrating women in the military. Fifty-eight of 60 SNR clubs participated by honoring women (club members included) as part of the opening "Women Honoring Women Who Serve" banquet.



Jeff and Tracy Turner, with President Margie, at the Friday Night reception for "Women Who Serve".

SITM honored our own Tracy Peterson Turner, who served in the U.S. Air Force, and her husband Jeff at a reception before the conference in a suite in the hotel.

The evening featured a posting of the colors by the VA Women Veteran's Color Guard; remarks on women in the military by Major General USAF (Retired) Mary J.

Kight; and a presentation of the women honorees in photos with military ranks and service records.



Some of the women honored Friday night.

Our national anthem was sung by Linda Wright and Governor Janice Labadie. During dinner Major General Mary J. Kight spoke to us about the importance of women in the military and the need to honor them.



Major General USAF (Retired) Mary J. Kight

There was a power point presentation showing all of our honorees, with lovely photos of our own Tracy Turner among them.

Special recognitions were given to Life members (including JoAnn Roberts); first time attendees (Barbara Atwell, Anna McArdle and Jennifer Burnitt among them); Laurel Legacy members (including Kay Dunham and Diana Dillon); and Laurel Society members (too numerous to list).

Saturday Business Session

Saturday began early with breakfast and start of the business session. The report of the Nominating Committee was given and there was one nomination from the floor (for District VII, Noel Trim from SI Truckee Donner). The Bylaw Committee reported on proposed changes to SNR Bylaws, which were voted on and passed by the club delegates.

- Redistricting of clubs to even out the number of clubs in each district (10 each) and reduce the number of districts from seven to six.



The VA Women Veteran's Color Guard

• SI Truckee Meadows is now a member of District V along with:

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| Winnemucca | Truckee Meadows |
| Elko | Truckee-Donner |
| Washoe Valley | South Lake Tahoe |
| Reno | Tahoe Sierra |
| Fallon | Quincy |

Following financial and credential reports, voting instructions were given (including the new district for which each candidate was running) and the polls were opened for delegate voting. Noel Trim, from SI/Truckee-Donner, became the sole candidate for District V Director.



Penny Leezy and sister Linda Webber with Penney's Jewelry

During the lunch, Governor Janice called upon the Region Coordinators to make the following presentations: Lane Parks, Awards Coordinator, presented the Region Youth & Scholarship awards. Coordinator Lil Schaller and Federation Visitor Jackie Bond presented the Region's Violet Richardson Award. S Club Coordinator Tania Garcia-Cadenas presented the Outstanding "S" Club award; and Treasurer Vicki Watson presented the Blanche Edgar Award for club growth.

The Communication Committee members gave their reports on the Region Website, E-blasts, Facebook and Roster.

Federation Visitor and News from SIA

Our Federation Visitor, SIA Secretary-Treasurer Jackie Bond, gave the SIA Federation Report on "The Measure of Success," beginning with humorous anecdotes from her Soroptimist



SIA Secretary-Treasurer Jacqueline Bond.

career. She mentioned SI Truckee Meadows several times. (We were privileged that Director Jackie joined our Women's Scholarship luncheon prior to the start of conference.) She plagiarized Reba McIntyre somewhat with her measures of success: we need wishbone, backbone and fun bone. We need wishbone for empowering women and girls; SIA's support as our backbone; and a sense of fun for sharing and retention of members. She stressed SIA's goal of measurable outcomes and mentioned our first corporate partner Royal Neighbors. She reported, among other things, that 80% of Women's Opportunity Award recipients who responded, reported an improved standard of living.



First time attendees Anna McArdle and Jennifer Burnitt. Also attending conference for the first time was Barbara Atwell.

WOA Changing Name to Live Your Dream

The Women's Opportunity Award is being renamed to the Live Your Dream Education and Training Awards for Women and it has a new deadline of November 15th. She also reported that the Violet Richardson Award

for girls (which is no longer supported by Federation and International) will be replaced by a new program to be unveiled at the July convention in Vancouver.



Celebrating Success Coordinator Patti Doty, and incoming SNR Secretary Lane Parks.

Dates for the 43rd Biennial Convention in Vancouver are from July 23rd through 26th of 2014. New membership requirements were announced: 12 members will be needed to charter

and maintain a club; and there will be no "low-standing" designation for clubs as long as financial obligations are met (there will be no clubs in jeopardy). These changes are made with the intention of being more welcoming and inclusive.



SITM members at the Saturday night banquet at conference.

Fundraising Up; Dues to Go Up Too

Due to the great loss in members throughout the federation over the last 10 years, our dues no longer cover the costs. Cost per member is rising and it is anticipated that we will deplete our investment funds by 2016 if we don't decrease services or raise dues. Yes, dues are going up, by \$20 over the next 3 years. After that cheerful announcement Federation



Newly-elected District V Director Nicole Trim, Jo Ann Roberts, incoming Governor Jackie DeMartini and Faye Andersen.

Membership Chair Lisa Bloom reported that our region has grown by 5.64%, and that we are third in growth in the Federation. Federation Fundraising Coordinator Kay Dunham (who managed to sell enough bookmarks to award three \$1,000 Laurel Society memberships during the conference) gave her report and awarded several Laurel Society memberships to those whose clubs donated \$1,000 to honor one of their members. Federation Public Awareness Chair Lane Parks and Federation Program Chair Gina Grether gave their reports, Gina noting that she is still receiving donations for Kay's Cookers, a project recommended

by our club. Endowment Club Coordinator Heather Smee-Fosberg awarded grants to several clubs (totaling \$21,525) and Linda McDoniels reported on the Soroptimist Development Retreat (SDR, formerly COTR) in July.

SNR Election Results

Election results were announced: District VI Director, Susan Strople; District V Director (ours, now) Noel Trim; District IV Director, Veronica Gonzalez; District III Director, Barbara Smiley; District II Director, Tania Garcia-Cardena; District I Director, Sherry Hoyer; SNR Treasurer Pam Greever; SNR Secretary, Lane Parks; and Governor-Elect Vicki Watson.



SNR Governor Janice Labadie recognized Anna McArdle for her great assistance with this year's conference

Saturday Dinner

Numerous Club Awards were presented at the Saturday dinner. Celebrating Success Coordinator Patti Doty announced the club winners. SITM won third place in the Program category for its Fiber Arts for Families program. SITM also took third place for the Newsletter Star Award.



The 2014-16 SNR Officers and Directors. Incoming Governor Jackie DeMartini's theme is: No Guilt – You First."

Lane Parks and Cindra Smith announced SITM took first place for the the new 5 Star Award for Best Overall Public Awareness (judging newsletter, website and social media) and First Place for the 5 Star Innovative Public Awareness

Award (for engaging a UNR Journalism student to write articles as a class assignment).

Installation of New Officers

Past Governor Sue Camp and Chris Hebard-Summers from SI Loomis Basin (Jackie DeMartini's club) officiated at the installation of the 2014-2016 region board, followed by the new Governor's address, stressing awareness, advocacy and action. Incoming Governor Jackie will have two new committees for legislative advocacy and for trafficking awareness. She promised the availability of speakers in any of these areas. While she does not currently have a region project,



Monica House was one of the lucky basket raffle winners at Conference



Barbara Atwell greets a customer in the sales room at conference.

she asked us to maintain the following six items in our budgets (which, by the way, we currently do): (1) one international line item; (2) one federation line item; (3) one region line item; (4) participation in Live Your Dream (formerly WOA); (5) one women and girls program stressing trafficking awareness; and (6) one line item supporting SIA's new girl program (formerly Violet Richardson). Her theme is "No Guilt – You First," and stresses the importance of putting members first and removing any burden of guilt placed on them for what they can't do.

Sunday Program and Conclusion

Sunday's program started a bit later, with a Celebration of Life ceremony remembering Soroptimists who had passed during the last year. JoAnn Roberts represented our club in honoring our Life Member Barbara Vucanovich. A total of 24 deceased Soroptimists were remembered by their club representatives.

Awards and Fellowships

Region WOA coordinator Peggy Ursin introduced the six region winners. Coordinator Ellen Camacho

introduced SNR Ruby Award winner Sandy Escobar, founder of Women of Worth, who runs Hedy's Haven, a domestic violence shelter. Coordinator Janet Galliani awarded the Fellowship Grants to two recipients. A final report on Governor Janice's project My Sister's House was given by coordinator Gina Grether, followed by a presentation by the new SNR Stop Trafficking Task Force coordinator Joanne Tremelling.

Upcoming Dates

Governor-Elect Jackie invited everyone to the next SNR Development Retreat (July 18 & 19) and the 2015 SNR Conference (April 24-26, 2015). SIA Secretary-Treasurer Jackie Bond officially invited us to the 2014 SIA Convention in Vancouver July 23-26 of this year and assured us that she was looking forward to seeing all of us there.



President-Elect Pam Sutton and President Margie Hermanson showing off SITM's two 5 Star Awards presented at conference.

Governor Janice adjourned the conference by leading us in the Soroptimist Pledge.

SITM Update

Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows

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SITM meets every Thursday noon at the Atlantis Resort & Spa, 3800 South Virginia Street in Reno, second floor convention center. For reservations www.sitruckeemeadows@hotmail.com. no later than 7 p.m. on the Tuesday before the meeting. Lunch is \$17.

Soroptimist is an international organization for business and professional women who work to improve the lives of women and girls, in local communities and throughout the world.



For information about our organization, check out these Soroptimist Websites:
Sierra Nevada Region: www.soroptimistsnr.org
Soroptimist International of the Americas: www.soroptimist.org
Soroptimist International: www.soroptimistinternational.org



Did you know . . .

Dominican Republic becomes 129th Soroptimist country!

On Saturday 26th April, Soroptimist International welcomed its newest club and first in the Dominican Republic: Soroptimist International Santo Domingo. There are now Soroptimist International clubs in 129 countries and territories worldwide.

"I'm delighted to see that the 20 new members of Santo Domingo are already implementing Soroptimist values by engaging in their first project that focuses on the health of mothers and children in their community", says Maria Luisa Frosio, in charge of Extension at Soroptimist International of Europe, who presented the Club's Charter on Saturday.

All Soroptimist International clubs belong to one of the four SI Federations; SI Santo Domingo will be a member of Soroptimist International of Europe, which now comprises 1255 Clubs in 59 countries.

"The European Federation has been growing steadily since 2012 when SI Club of Struga, based in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), joined Soroptimist International", report SI of Europe in their website announcement.

"The new Club of Santo Domingo, and the addition of the Dominican Republic to our Federation, is another important step in the growth of our movement! This trend will be continued in the coming weeks and months with new countries that are about to welcome Soroptimist Clubs: Serbia, the United Arab Emirates, and potentially Kuwait!"

In recent months, new clubs have also been chartered in the Philippines, Germany, France, Poland and Japan.